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June 16, 2011

Mr. Julius Genachowski Chairman The Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I support the proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile because it will give our city the tool of greater broadband access to grow our economy. The city of Ely is situated in a beautiful area of Minnesota that is blessed with natural resources. Mining is an integral part of our economy and we also attract a wide variety of people interested in the abundant fishing, canoeing and other outdoor activities located nearby.

Our local economy is highly dependent upon these two industries and we are very interested in their continued growth. To make this happen, it is absolutely necessary that we have access to broadband internet.

As an example, with wireless Internet access, a local fishing guide could receive and confirm reservations for an upcoming date while in a boat or in a vehicle making his job easier and allowing for increased revenues.

We've got to have jobs to survive. In today's economy, broadband makes jobs possible. It is pretty difficult to hang on to the jobs we have, let alone grow new ones, without it. I respectfully ask that you support this merger and join us in working to grow the economy of Ely and other cities like it.

Sincerely,

Roger Skraba

Mayor, City of Ely